

# Abilify (aripiprazole)

## Parent Information Sheet

### *Why it is prescribed*

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Abilify is used to treat mental and emotional conditions, such as disordered thinking, phobias, anxiety, and severe behavior problems, as well as schizophrenia.

### *How to give Abilify*

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- Abilify is prescribed only for use by the patient whose name appears on the prescription.
- Abilify requires adult supervision at home and at school. Your child should not be expected to remember to take the medication on his/her own. Your school will require a form for school medication administration signed by the doctor.
- Give Abilify exactly as your doctor has prescribed.
- Do not give Abilify more often or in larger doses than what your doctor has ordered. If you have any questions or concerns about the current medication, call your doctor's office.
- If you miss a dose take the missed dose as soon as possible; then take the remaining doses for that day at regularly spaced times. Do not give a double dose of Abilify.

*The phone number to the office is (313) 832-1100 ext. 220.*

### **Side Effects**

Call your doctor immediately if any of these side effects occur:

- uncontrolled muscle movements (especially in face, tongue, or jaw)
- trouble breathing or swallowing
- fast or irregular heartbeat

If any of these side effects occur, talk to your doctor:

- headache, nausea, vomiting, stomachache, excessive thirst, excessive urination, or weight gain.

### *Special Considerations*

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- Your doctor may order periodic blood tests to monitor for increased blood sugar and/or cholesterol levels.

### *Procedure for getting a prescription*

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- If you require a prescription refill before your next scheduled appointment, please call the clinical services office at (313) 832-1100 ext. 220.
- Please have your pharmacy phone number available before calling for prescription refills.
- The Detroit Institute for Children is not open on weekends or holidays. The clinical services office is open from 8 am till 5 pm Monday through Thursday and 8 am till 12 noon on Fridays.
- If you are overdue for a return appointment or have not kept a scheduled appointment, your child's doctor reserves the right not to prescribe the medication.

### **Poison Control Center:**

**1-800-764-7661 (1-800-POISON-1)**